

March 2, 1984

LB 920

It indicates merely that you have to declare yourself either a Republican or a Democrat when you receive an absentee ballot that wants you to vote on one way or the other, one party. You have to identify yourself and I would move for the adoption of the committee amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay, the question is the adoption of the second committee amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed no. Let's go. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of the second committee amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Morehead.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Mr. Speaker, colleagues, thank you very much. I believe that Senator Landis did a fine job of explaining the bill to you. Basically, the general concept of LB 920 is to designate one category of absentee voter instead of both absentee and disabled. It will eliminate different sets of rules, different deadlines, a lot of administrative problems that election commissioners and people are having trouble in coping with and by thus doing so it will eliminate a lot of the cost involved. There are administrative obstacles each year that prevent voters from successfully completing and returning these absentee and/or disabled voter ballots. Now for those of you who may have any kind of concern about this, I want you first of all to take a look at the back of the sheet which I passed around to you and you will see the people appearing in favor of this piece of legislation being Dorothy Anderson, Lancaster County Election Office; Steve Wiitala, Douglas County Election Commissioner; Sandra Hockley, Allen Beermann, in fact, appeared for this also. And I think that with the cooperation of all of these people, the input of the committee and the reorganization help of the bill drafter's office that we have this particular statute in fine order. We have eliminated, if some of you have looked at the fiscal note and had any problems, that is going to be taken care of with the adoption now of the committee amendments because there was a line in there that indicated that postage,